

Amendment and Response
U.S. Serial No. 10/729,309
Filed: December 5, 2003
Attorney Docket No: 965-009CON2

REMARKS

Claims 37-52 were presented.

In response to a prior Restriction Requirement, claims 39, 40, 44, 45, and 48-52 were non-elected claims and are withdrawn.

In the present Office Action, claims 37, 38 and 41 are deemed to conflict with claims in a co-pending application that involves a potential interference with a U.S. Patent.

Claims 42, 43, 46 and 47 are deemed non-conflicting and can be examined if written in independent form as necessary.

Claims 42 and 46, which depended from claim 37, have been rewritten to incorporate all of the limitations of claim 37. Claims 43 and 47 depended from claims 42 and 46, respectively, and do not require amendment.

Claims 37, 38 and 41 have been canceled without prejudice.

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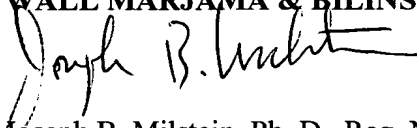
CONCLUSION

Applicants believe that this response is fully responsive to the Office Action. Applicants submit that pending Claims 42, 43, 46 and 47 are now in proper condition for allowance, and request the issuance of a Notice of Allowance at the Examiner's earliest convenience..

If the Examiner believes that contact with Applicants' attorney would be advantageous toward the disposition of this case, the Examiner is requested to call Applicants' attorney at the phone number noted below.

Respectfully submitted,
WALL MARJAMA & BILINSKI LLP

By:


Joseph B. Milstein, Ph. D., Reg. No. 42,897
101 South Salina Street, 4th Floor
Syracuse, NY 13202
Telephone: (315) 425-9000
Facsimile: (315) 425-9114

Date: February 17, 2005

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